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Nick of overtime

Knights need three overtimes to topple visiting Tulsa — SEE SPORTS, A9

Food for thought
After school program helps educate low-income children — SEE NEWS, A2

Funds go toward military training projects
AT&T donates $50k for research

"When you have people who have so little but do so much, it's very inspiring." — BETTY SWART

Bright Futures benefit reduced
Decrease a result of state budget cut
NATALIE COSTA

Confusion resolved, meal plan frustrations relieved

"The reason why I bought a meal plan was because Knights would be opening up in November," said one freshman, freshman political science major Trent Phillips. "They had not moved into the dorms and I was like, 'Wow, I need to buy a meal plan!'"

Instead, he offered three options. Students could purchase a separate plan, which gives Towers residents the option to choose any meal plan, regardless of living situation. Students can arrange a personal meal plan with the management company and they have the option to purchase a meal plan.

Please SEE SOCIAL, A11

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Please SEE SOCIAL, A11
Lessons with NOURISHMENT FUTURE

UCF's Rock for Hunger feeds children's minds and appetites.

WHITNEY HAMRICK
Staff Writer

Kids from low-income families were given a bite to eat and a little knowledge, courtesy of a UCF student group.

Rock for Hunger, a student organization, started an after-school program for more than 40 children from the Paramore district of downtown Orlando. Parents and buds take place every Friday from 3:40 to 5 p.m. at the John H. John Community Center on Carter Street.

The group hopes to one day run its own center and provide its services every day but needs more space. Getting volunteers and funding has proven to be the largest obstacle to the group's goal.

In the classroom, renderings of Martin Luther King Jr. hang so well along with a painting of a globe that has "Keep Orlando Clean. Eat Globally Act Local," written above it. The children were historically taught while they practiced basic math skills in adding and subtracting.

"We primarily work on math and reading," said Chris Gregory, the communications graduate student who started Rock for Hunger. "Some of them aren't at their grade level. They need to be, so we're helping them get there and above them."

For more students like Sara Merano, a health sciences and liberal studies alumna, local. The True Story of the Chocolate Fund, said "I always questions to see if they comprehended the story." Merano said "It also builds group interaction and teaches them how to switch it up. We don't have a set program."

Rock for Hunger strives to alleviate poverty for students of Orlando by feeding the homeless on Mondays at 7 a.m. at the old post office on Jefferson Street and Magnolia Avenue. The group also offers assistance to those in need and resumes building on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at the downtown library.

Rock for Hunger raised more than $2500 for the Second Harvest Food Bank and the organization's programs last November during its annual Rock for Hunger Fest concert series.

Angela Geisert, lead singer of the band Louds that performed at Rock for Hunger Fest 2 and 4, most recently one her four years, formulated the lesson plan and also leads the students in song with her guitar. The long-taught subject was then taught in a different language.

"Our goal is to help kids who are performing low through lack of emotion," Geisert said. "The main thing is to get them three to make and understand a love for learning."

Another group of UCF graduate students in education leadership, strategy, and policy development perspectives and ways of working with innovative practices, began their discharge on Rock for Hunger's efforts.

After the math lesson, the papers were graded and candy was passed out to everyone. The more well-behaved students got a bit more candy than the less well-behaved students. A lot of you did well today. You get a B," Merano said. "For those of you that didn't, all you need to do is grasp what I taught."

For Rock for Hunger provides a meal for the hungry and feeds the homeless on Monday. As a great opportunity to get involved with the kids' programs, To mentor them and help them realize their goals and aspirations that they have, so they can come back to the classroom and help make realizations who they are and give back. It's all about giving back."
Partnership benefits troops

FROM
Al
am honored to participate in the generous donation from AT&T to the University of Central Florida's Institute for Simulation and Training.

"This donation is the key component that helps support a public-private partnership that benefits education and develops real-world advanced technology in behalf of our military members before they are ever deployed onto the battlefield. The AT&T grant allows the University of Central Florida's Institute for Simulation and Technology to develop cutting-edge programs that have placed the UCF and the Central Florida high-tech corridor at the forefront of modeling and simulation research."

Over the past four years, the U.S. Army's program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation has relied on AT&T for its expertise in communications and network technologies. These technologies allow for better training that simulates true-to-life battlefield scenarios.

"By using next-generation technology to deliver more realistic and accurate training, live simulation will help the Army provide its troops with better simulation for battlefields not seen before, and they can fight before they actually fight the real field," said IST Director Randall Shumaker.

"This grant by AT&T is a prime example of how industry, that recognition, and will help attract highly qualified students to the program."

Several years ago, UCF developed multidisciplinary master's and Ph.D. degree programs in modeling and simulation. More than 140 graduates with a master's degree in Ph.D. have played a role in modeling and simulation research advances. "AT&T's consistent and valuable support of UCF's simulation and training research has helped the U.S. Army leverage advanced technology to ensure that its troops are truly prepared to fight," said UCF President John Hitt in a release on the AT&T Web site. "The program has been a great example of how industry, academic and government can work together to support the troops.

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exemption for housing valued at more than $200,000 but not more than $350,000 and it would let homeowners take their Save Our Homes benefits along when they move. Other provisions, which would give bureaucrats a break on taxes they pay on other personal property, and put a 1 percent cap on annual assessments for non-homesteaded properties — although they rarely increase that much.

Escaped jail inmate attacks Citrus County homeowner LEHIGH ACRES — Deputies pressed on with their search for an escaped jail inmate Sunday after he attacked a homeowner with a hammer, authorities said.

Brenda Coursey, 49, was seen Sunday morning in a sideyard of a mobile home in Lehigh Acres. On Feb. 12, authorities spotted Coursey approaching the shed, and sheriff's deputies were able to capture him. Authorities said Coursey fled the Citrus County Detention Facility on Friday afternoon. Coursey is about 6-foot-2 and 200 pounds, with curly brown hair and blue eyes. The public was warned to contact deputies if he is spotted and call police immediately.

Second body found in search for 4 kids taken from bridge ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. — A body was recovered Saturday night in the search for four children allegedly thrown off a bridge into the ocean by their father.

The body was found by a search team near where the black hunter found the body of an infant. And the four children were found west of the Bridge in a marshy area on Saturday, said Mobile County Sheriff's Capt. Jerry Taylor.

The search for the children — men­tioned 3 1/2 years ago mini­mately outpaced that of women ages 25 to 29 said they had earned a bachelor's degree. Those women, compared to 28 percent of men in the same age annual salary of $82,320. The 2007 data also high­lighted the difference in income between those who do and those who don't. Nearly one-third, or 31 percent, of women ages 25 to 29 reported that they had earned a bachelor's degree, while just 22 percent of men did.

For non-homestead properties, the Save Our Homes benefits that homeowners can use to lower the taxes they pay on equipment and buildings they own outside their homes. These include, but are not limited to, homes and cars, and revi­ews on summer charges. It also would limit homeowners take their Save Our Homes benefits along when they move. Other provisions, which would give bureaucrats a break on taxes they pay on other personal property, and put a 1 percent cap on annual assessments for non-homesteaded properties — although they rarely increase that much.

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ATF trains dogs at UCF

COREY MAYNARD

Staff Writer

Wednesday and Thursday of last week found K-9 police units from all over the state centered on UCF for a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Training Event at Bright House Networks Stadium.

About 50 different agencies registered for the event, and each agency took part in a training program to teach their already-certified police dogs the scent of peroxide, which can be used in explosives.

The training consisted of the dogs being run through circles of cans to check each one for the distinct odor of peroxide. In addition to the circle tests, the cans were also occasionally used in a straight line.

Whenever the dog discovered a can containing the peroxide substance, they were to sit beside it to inform the handler that they had found something of interest.

After a correct find, the dogs were then rewarded by play with a ball or toy to encourage the behavior and keep the task enjoyable for the dog.

The UCF Police Department did not have either their handlers or dogs at the event because of injuries and scheduling conflicts.

Cut affects 4,054 students

VIRTUAL INCOMPROMISING EDUCATION? Pecoraro said.

Pecoraro said the change was solely the decision of the Legislature, not UCF. Yet, no knowledge of this change in the scholarship percolated to the media and therefore was virtually undisclosed to the students it directly affected.

"This is in excellent example of how students do not have an adequate voice," Pecoraro said. "Nothing like this is directly affecting us, and we need to be involved in the negotiation... in order to enhance our education."

UCF psychology major Whitney Kornegay said that students should have been more involved in the decision.

"These kinds of decisions should be voted on by the Legislature and the students," Kornegay said. "Making changes to a university or adding buildings or stadiums is fine, but the student's financial aid, which determines if a lot of them can even afford to go there, should come first."
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Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

Summer and Holidays
Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm

Cracks delay Knightro’s

FROM Al

convert their money to FlexBucks.

Phillips said the problem
with these choices is “none of
that involves me getting
any ·

money back at

all.”

Tim Mason, a freshman
political science major · and
president of the Towers Area
Council, said that he consid­

ers the options unsatisfactory.

A resident who chooses
one of the first two options
must still walk across campus
for meals, he said. A student
who chooses the third could
end up trying to spend up to
$1,700 each semester,
depending on the meal plan,
at Burger King or Chick-fil-A
before the FlexBucks expire
at the end of the spring term.

The three options were
developed by Business Ser­
vices and Dining Services
after meeting with Mason on
Jan. 4. Devoid of a cancella­
tion option, Mason felt that
their plan circumvented the
residents’ request.

“At the beginning of the fall
semester, when you sign up
for a meal plan, they offer you
a two-week cancellation win­
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“If you’re dis­
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them to extend that into
spring term to allow for Tow­
ers residents who no longer
wanted to make that trip.”

However, Curt Sawyer,
director of Business Services,
said Thursday that Towers
residents have always had the
choice to cancel. He and the
other contributors to the plan
considered cancellation an
implied fourth option. He
said that the muddled situa­
tion resulted from miscom­
munication.

“In
between Monday and
Thursday, there
was
some con­
fusion as things continued to
escalate,” Sawyer said. “The full
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SARAH ROGERS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Knightro’s, the new UCF eating facility, is scheduled to open with nine stations: Southern, Deli, Produce
Market, Pizza, Vegetarian, Bakery, Dessert, Soup and Grill. The opening of the eatery has
been delayed due to deep cracks in the structure’s cement flooring.

Brian Compton, the assist­
tant marketing director for
Business Services, said that
they will meet the requests
made by Mason, Phillips and
the others by implementing
the two-week cancellation
window for the spring.

Affected Towers residents
have until Jan. 18 to take
advantage of the extension.

Sawyer said the delay has
been difficult for all involved,
not just the students.

“From a university stand­
point, it’s been a surprise to
us as to how long this thing
has been delayed,” he said.

“It’s cost the university quite
a bit as far as revenue and bad
publicity. From all perspec­
tives, it’s just not been a good
thing.”

The culprit that is pre­
venting Knightro’s from
opening on time are deep
cracks in the cement floors,
said Peggy Howse, the assis­
tant director of operations for
Business Services. As a result,
Knightro’s will remain closed
indefinitely as they seek a
permanent and attractive
solution.

In the meantime, Sawyer
said it is Dining Services’
and Business Services’ priority
to meet the students’ needs.

“We are very cognizant of
the service we provide to the
students,” he said. “There’s
no higher mission for us.”

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CRACKS DELAY KNIGHTRO’S

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Bright House is System of the Year

MOLEY HAYS

Bright House Networks Central Florida branch was recently recognized by the magazine CableWorld for 2007 by CableWorld Magazine in December.

"This is our first industry recognition, and I think it has a lot of meaning to the company and to the employees," said Grant Brady, vice president of Public Affairs for the Central Florida operation.

In addition to being the service provider for UCF, Bright House made a $15 million purchase of the naming rights for the stadium, Bright House Networks Stadium, in December. The stadium rights, owned by the Orlando Ballet, will expire until 2022.

"We're very pleased with Bright House," said Grant, assistant vice president of Corporate Affairs and Information. "They've been a tremendous partner with us, and we think it's a well-deserved honor.

Heston said that the university carefully considered the kind of company it wanted to go beyond just providing service, to providing a service partnership.

"When we looked at the stadium rights, we were thinking it's our community that will benefit the most," Heston said. "We want a company that will be embedded in the community, and that's what we found in Bright House.

Bright House has been the perfect fit, and we had a very successful first season at Bright House Networks Stadium.

Outside of providing services for more than 800,000 customers in Orange, Osceola, Polk, Lake, Marion, Volusia, Sumter and Volusia counties and existing naming rights to the UF stadium, Bright House Networks also serves as a corporate patron to local programs.

"Bright House's involvement in the community is important for us to go beyond just providing telecommunications services," Brady said. "We get so much from our customers. We think it's important to be so active in the community and to participate in a way that has some meaning, and has some positive benefit.

With a focus on arts and education, Bright House assists the Orlando Ballet in offering after-school dance classes to inner-city children who wouldn't normally have that opportunity. They also support the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, whose primary venue is a night club and A Gift For Teaching, a student philanthropy project.

With all of 100 employees, Bright House is the kind of hometown business. Our customers are here, our employees are here; our call center is here. UCF is really our hometown college.

"It's a great partner for the university as it is for us," Brady said. "We think it's important to be that kind of company, and that's what we found in Bright House.

"We are kind of a hometown company," said Heston. "Outside of the stadium, we are kind of a hometown company. We want our people to be comfortable with us. We think Bright House has been the perfect fit, and we had a very successful first season at Bright House Networks Stadium.

Bright House Networks has some positive impact in a way that has some meaning and has some positive benefit."
Social work members lend a hand

Karen Guin, the director of communications for the College of Health and Public Affairs, said Swart is empowering the kids in Kenya through her education.

“She has a passion,” Guin said.

Swart said she remembers her favorite things in particular. Muhoro, after becoming homeless, got involved in drugs and gangs. Since then, he has partially changed his life and now serves as a coach and leader to the rest of the students.

“It just all starts with trust,” Muhoro said of Swart.

She helped the boys by trying to change their ideas and free. Muhoro said, in the end, people don’t know about HIV, AIDS or drug abuse, and Swart has helped by teaching them how to prevent those diseases themselves, he said.

Muhoro also said that the community as well as the kids, has benefited from the work.

“Now people are not going very far to get the water,” Muhoro said. He said that they love her because she is someone who has helped the community a lot.

A 14-year-old girl named Esther has also impacted Swart’s life.

Living in very poor conditions with no electricity, no money for books and no food, Esther was still able to study. Swart said the only thing Esther wrote about in her diary was continuing her education.

Starting in February, Esther will be the first girl in the center to go to secondary school.

The center’s next goal is to reach their goals.

It’s all about working with the kids, Swart said.

Esther has helped the boys by teaching them how to make bread.

The center has had a lot of success in Kenya to know that students in another country are standing in solidarity with them in raising them well, Swart said.

The School of Social Work has helped Swart with the teen in Kenya.

As Swart taught the school’s education, she said that the students had to look at individuals from a perspective of strength.

“Any situation, no matter how bad, there is strength to it,” Swart said.

She said that she uses that perspective when she works with the kids because they have many strengths that they aren’t even aware of.

All proposals made by faculty, staff, administration, or members of the committee shall be submitted within 48 hours of receiving the proposal.

At least 48 hours prior to the meeting, all proposals shall be sent to all members of the Committee via e-mail.
UCF guard Timmy Smith said, "It was an exciting, tough, hard-fought game. The players who weren't sitting in the seats really missed out on our last shot, which made both free throws.

The officials called for a jump ball, giving the Knights another possession. With 12 points and 12 rebounds Friday, O'Neal fouled out, the league officials, led by guard Jillian Samuels, were nearly perfect from the floor, including 4-of-4 from beyond the arc. Samuels was one of five Mustangs to make a 3-pointer, the Knights, never in double figures, continued their hot shooting.

The Mustangs had four 3-pointers, while the Knights, which shot 70 percent from the floor, including 13-of-16 from beyond the arc, were nearly perfect from the floor. Samuels was one of five Mustangs to make a 3-pointer, the Knights, never in double figures, continued their hot shooting.

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SMU takes advantage of UCF miscues

SMU guard Mike Walker scored 13 of his 20 points in the second half, including 3-of-6 from 3-point range, as SMU defeated UCF 74-62.

Taylor said of Billings: "It was punch-counterpunch. He was very patient, he was very cool under pressure. We had a good little connection on the court. We kept him to 10 points, but that didn't stop the Golden Hurricane's momentum.

The Knights led the first half, with UCF forward Dave Noel making 6-of-10 shots in the first half, leading to a 10-point lead. But in the second half, the Mustangs were able to overcome the deficit and win the game 74-62.

The Knights had a tough start, getting behind early in the game. But they were able to come back and take the lead back in the second half. The Mustangs were able to score 38 points in the second half, compared to UCF's 14.

The Knights were able to get some much-needed rest as they head into their next game. They will play Tulsa on Saturday in Tulsa, Okla. A full recap will be in Monday's issue of The Central Florida Future.
Racial jokes have negative punchlines

Keep military research in check

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